

# NYS Smart Schools

Information • Resources • Tools

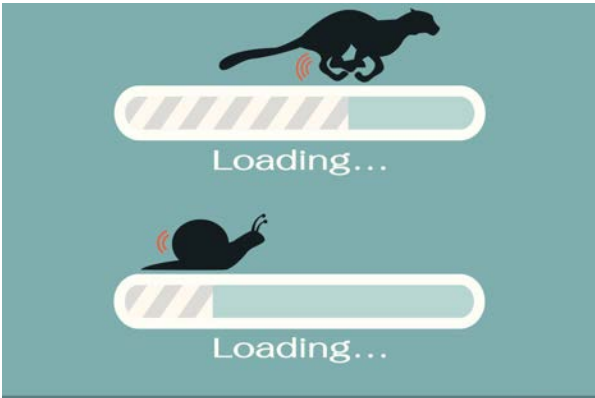


# Smart Schools Categories



## Learning Technology

Acquire learning technology equipment or facilities, including but not limited to interactive whiteboards, computer servers, and desktop, laptop, and tablet computers.



## Broadband & Wireless Internet

Install high-speed broadband or wireless internet connectivity for schools and communities.



## Security Features

Install high-tech security features in school buildings and on school campuses, including but not limited to video surveillance, emergency notification systems, and physical access controls.

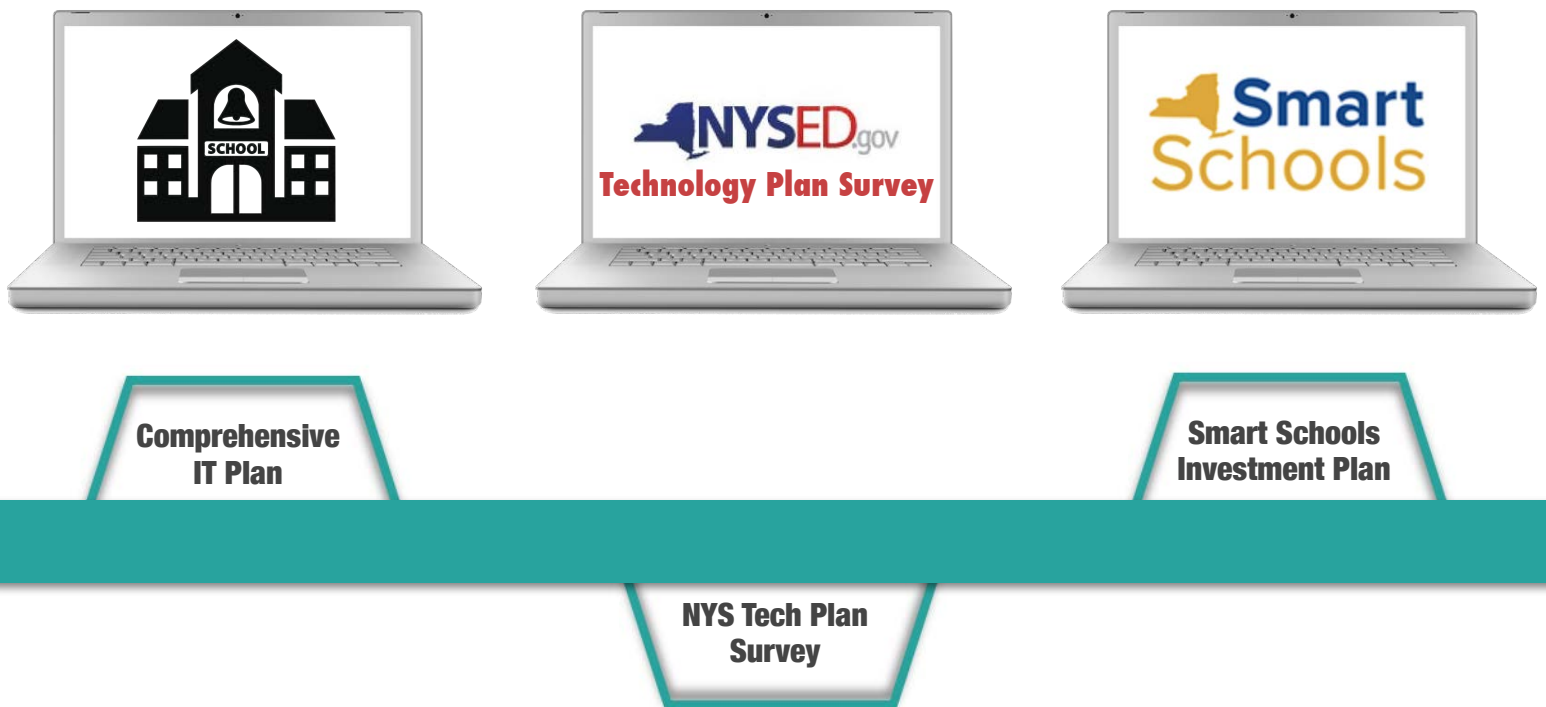


## Pre-K and Other Instructional Space

Construct, enhance, and modernize educational facilities to accommodate pre-kindergarten programs and to provide instructional space to replace classroom trailers.

# Planning Process

To access Smart Schools funds, districts will need to submit a Smart Schools Investment Plan. Districts must also submit data related to their technology into NYSED's new Technology Plan Survey. The Smart Schools Investment Plan and the data input into the Technology Plan Survey should align with a larger, comprehensive district technology plan. Some districts may also leverage other data-driven tools to support the development of local plans.



Effective plans should:

- ~ Include linkages between the district's long-term educational planning and technology investments;
- ~ Provide learning opportunities beyond the classroom through the use of technology; and
- ~ Address the educational needs of all students, including students with disabilities, English language learners, and those who have not succeeded in traditional classroom settings.

The Smart School Board will meet quarterly to review and approve Smart Schools Investment Plans. Districts that plan to use their SSBA funds for school capital projects or facilities will first need to undergo a preliminary review for their projects through the Office of Facilities Planning before submitting their Smart Schools Investment Plan for approval.

SSBA funds may be used on long-term capital expenses, such as connectivity infrastructure investments in the school building, pre-kindergarten expansion space, replacement of portable classrooms, and high-tech security measures.

Reminder: The SSBA allows districts to use funds for community connectivity projects.



# Planning Process

## Inclusion of Nonpublic Schools

- ~ Upon request, school districts must loan, at no charge, technology obtained as part of the Smart Schools Bond Act to children attending nonpublic schools located within their district boundaries.
- ~ No School district may loan SSBA classroom technology in an aggregate amount greater than \$250 multiplied by the nonpublic school enrollment in the base year at the time of enactment (e.g. 2014-15 enrollment)



**Stakeholder Engagement:** Pursuant to the requirements of the SSBA, the planning process must include consultation with parents, teachers, students, community members, the nonpublic school located in the district and other stakeholders. Superintendents will certify in their submissions of the Smart School Investment Plans that the required stakeholder engagement has occurred.

Once an approved purchase has been made and the request for reimbursement is received and approved, the New York State Education Department will authorize payment and the funds will be paid to districts within 90 days in most cases. Reimbursement forms will be made available on the New York State Education Department website. \*Districts can be reimbursed on an ongoing basis as they expend funds. It will not be necessary to expend the entire allocation before receiving reimbursement.

# Tech Plan Survey Portal

As discussed on page 3, districts will be required to submit a NYSED Tech Plan Survey in order to access Smart Schools funds. The NYSED Tech Plan Survey is a new initiative and will address larger NYSED needs. The list below explains this larger focus. Additionally, the diagram highlights the Tech Plan Survey components. As shown in the diagram, the survey is divided into ten major areas.



## Purpose of the NYSED Tech Plan Survey

- Ensure All Districts Have A Base Plan
- Streamline IT Data Collection Initiatives
- Address State Funding Requirements
- Support State Strategic Planning
- Address 100.12 Requirement



Survey Navigation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tech Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>
• LEA Information	➔
• Instructional Tech Vision & Goals	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Tech Infrastructure Inventory	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Software and IT Support	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Curriculum and Instruction	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Professional Development	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Technology Investment Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Status of Technology Initiatives	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Plan Implementation	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Monitoring and Evaluation	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Feedback	<input type="checkbox"/>
• Appendices	<input type="checkbox"/>

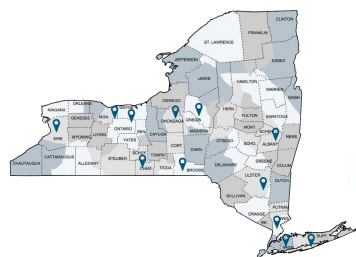
# Tech Plan Survey Process



## Regional Support

Districts can leverage optional support resources and professional development through their local BOCES and/or RIC.

Ongoing



Spring - Fall

Summer/Fall

## 2015 Implementation Timeline

Plans due  
July 27th

October 16

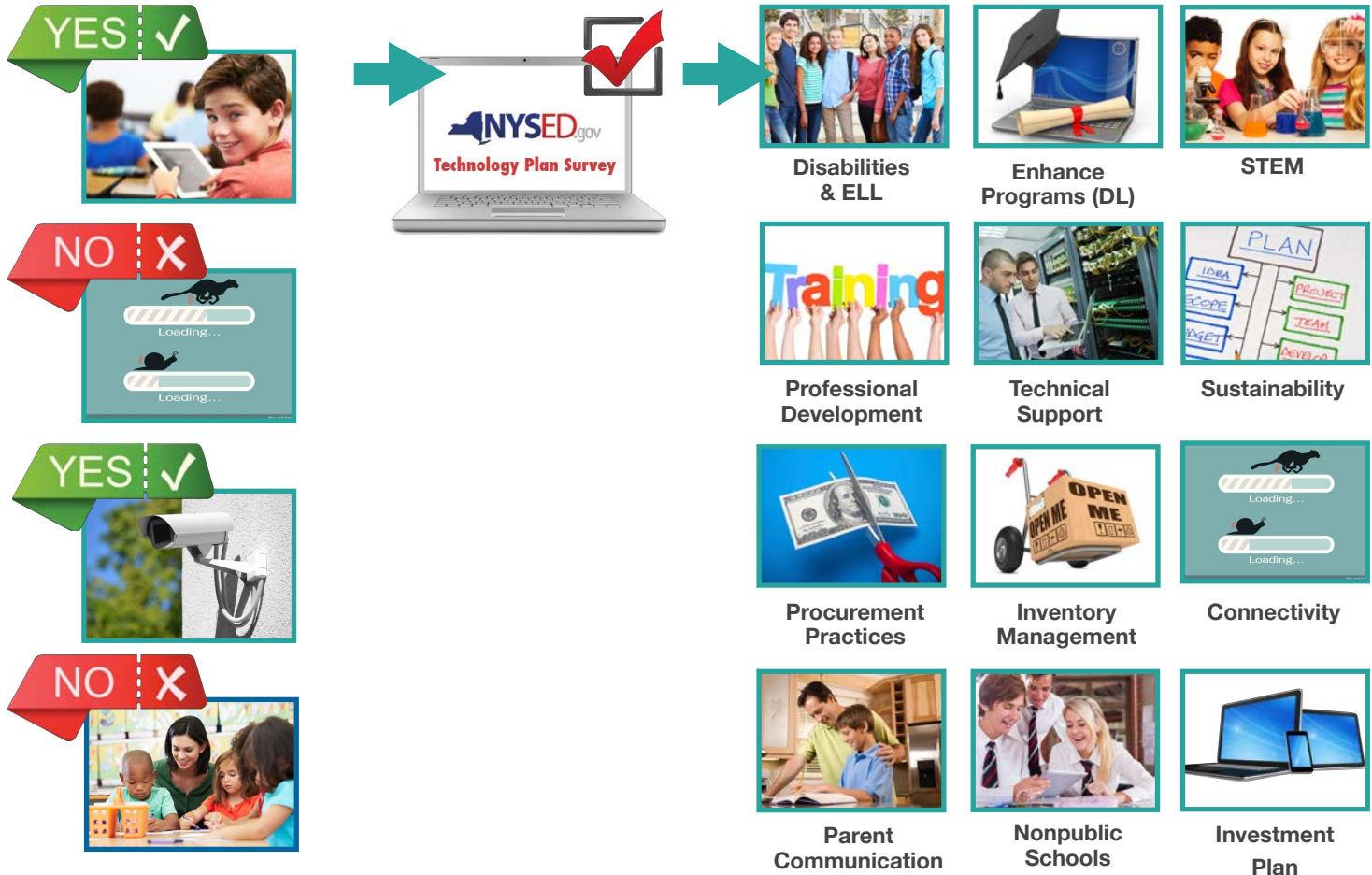
## Process Details

- Districts update instructional technology plans.
- NYSED opened the NYSED Technology Planning Survey on April 15.
- Districts submit plans to the RIC for review by July 27, 2015.
- Based on the RICs' review, NYSED approves districts' plans in October.

# Investment Plan Portal



Districts will access the Smart Schools Investment Plan Portal via the NYSED Business Portal.



The diagram above represents the Smart Schools Investment Plan Portal functionality. Districts will indicate which of the 4 categories their work aligns with and then they will answer several questions related to the categories of interest. Districts will need to certify they have an approved Technology Plan Survey if they include technology purchases.



# Investment Plan Process



## Process Details

- Districts develop and Board approves draft Smart Schools Investment Plans.
- Plans are posted on district websites and notice is provided to the public regarding a hearing. It must be posted for at least 30 days.
- Community feedback is provided at hearing and via written comments.
- The district plan is finalized and approved by the Board.
- The final plan is posted on the district website.
- District plans are submitted via the Business Portal for review.



